

riod collection of taxes is deferred or abated under this section. The annual interest rate during the deferral or abatement period is *five* ~~eight~~ percent instead of the rate provided by Section 33.01. Interest and penalties that accrued or that were incurred or imposed under Section 33.01 or 33.07 before the date the individual files the deferral affidavit under Subsection (b) or the date the judgment abating the suit is entered, as applicable, are preserved. A penalty under Section 33.01 is not incurred during a deferral or abatement period. The additional penalty under Section 33.07 may be imposed and collected only if the taxes for which collection is deferred or abated remain delinquent on or after the 181st day after the date the deferral or abatement period expires. A plea of limitation, laches, or want of prosecution does not apply against the taxing unit because of deferral or abatement of collection as provided by this section.

SECTION 3. Section 11.132(b), Tax Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to ad valorem taxes imposed for an ad valorem tax year that begins on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 4. Section 33.06(d), Tax Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to interest that accrues during a deferral or abatement period on or after the effective date of this Act, regardless of whether the deferral or abatement period began before that date or begins on or after that date. Interest that accrued during a deferral or abatement period before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect when the interest accrued, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 5. This Act takes effect January 1, 2018, but only if the constitutional amendment proposed by the 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of part of the market value of the residence homestead of a partially disabled veteran or the surviving spouse of a partially disabled veteran if the residence homestead was donated to the disabled veteran by a charitable organization for less than the market value of the residence homestead and harmonizing certain related provisions of the Texas Constitution is approved by the voters. If that amendment is not approved by the voters, this Act has no effect.

Passed by the House on May 8, 2017: Yeas 141, Nays 4, 1 present, not voting; that the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 150 on May 25, 2017, and requested the appointment of a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; the House adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 150 on May 28, 2017: Yeas 147, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 23, 2017: Yeas 31, Nays 0; at the request of the House, the Senate appointed a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; the Senate adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 150 on May 28, 2017: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 15, 2017.

Effective January 1, 2018, upon approval of constitutional amendment proposed in H.J.R. No. 21.

CONDITIONS OF COMMUNITY SUPERVISION FOR DEFENDANTS CONVICTED OF CERTAIN CRIMINAL OFFENSES INVOLVING ANIMALS; AUTHORIZING FEES

CHAPTER 1132

H.B. No. 162

AN ACT

relating to conditions of community supervision for defendants convicted of certain criminal offenses involving animals; authorizing fees.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Article 42A.511, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as

follows:

Art. 42A.511. COMMUNITY SUPERVISION FOR CERTAIN OFFENSES INVOLVING ANIMALS. (a) If a judge grants community supervision to a defendant convicted of an offense under Section 42.09, 42.091, 42.092, or 42.10, Penal Code, the judge may require the defendant to:

(1) *complete an online responsible pet owner course approved and certified by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation; or*

(2) *attend a responsible pet owner course sponsored by a municipal animal shelter, as defined by Section 823.001, Health and Safety Code, that:*

(A) *receives federal, state, county, or municipal funds; and*

(B) *serves the county in which the court is located.*

(b) *For purposes of the online responsible pet owner course described by Subsection (a)(1), the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation or the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation, as appropriate:*

(1) *is responsible for the approval, certification, and administration of the course and course providers;*

(2) *may charge fees for:*

(A) *initial and renewal course certifications;*

(B) *initial and renewal course provider certifications;*

(C) *course participant completion certificates; and*

(D) *other fees necessary for the administration of the course and course providers;*

(3) *shall adopt rules regarding the administration of the course and course providers, including rules regarding:*

(A) *the criteria for course approval and certification;*

(B) *the criteria for course provider approval and certification;*

(C) *curriculum development;*

(D) *course length and content;*

(E) *criteria for a participant to complete the course; and*

(F) *a course completion certificate that is acceptable to a court;*

(4) *is authorized to monitor and audit the provision of the course by the course providers; and*

(5) *may take enforcement actions as appropriate to enforce this subsection.*

SECTION 2. Not later than March 1, 2018, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation or the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation, as appropriate, shall adopt rules to implement Article 42A.511, Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed by the House on May 11, 2017: Yeas 127, Nays 18, 2 present, not voting;
passed by the Senate on May 24, 2017: Yeas 29, Nays 2.

Approved June 15, 2017.

Effective September 1, 2017.